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Docket No. 812495-220/10.83

Application No. ~~10/717,608~~

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REMARKS

Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group V that is shown in claims 44-50, drawn to a method for determining a service provider, without traverse, for examination on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application for the non-elected claims.

In view of the claim amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the classification of the claims of Group V (and the claims in Groups I, II, III, IV, VI, and VII). The Office has classified the claims of Group V as class 705, subclass 1. However, in light of the amendments to the elected claims, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 44-50 should not be classified in class 705, subclass 1.

Applicants cite the Classification Definition for Class 705, subclass 1:

AUTOMATED ELECTRICAL FINANCIAL OR BUSINESS PRACTICE OR MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT:

This subclass is indented under the class definition. Subject matter wherein an electrical apparatus and its corresponding methods perform the data processing operations, in which there is a significant change in the data or for performing calculation operations wherein the apparatus or method is uniquely designed for or utilized in the practice, administration, or management of an enterprise, or in the processing of financial data.

(1) Note. The term "arrangement" as used in this and its indented subclasses refers to either a device or to a method of use of a device for performing the indicated process. Further, a device may be an assemblage of components at a single location or may have its several components at geographically distinct locations, i.e., a network.

(2) Note. The term "enterprise" as used in this and its indented subclasses is intended to include governmental and nonprofit organizations, as well as conventional business organizations.

(3) Note. The arrangements in this and its indented subclasses are generally used for problems relating to administration of an organization, commodities, financial transactions, or recreation.

(4) Note. Mere designation of an arrangement as a "business machine" or a document as a "business form" or "business chart" without any particular business function will not cause classification in this or its indented subclasses.

Amended independent claim 44 and dependent claims 45-50 are directed to a method of utilizing feedback data to select among service providers on a computer network. Thus,

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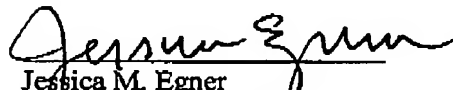
Application No. ~~107717,698~~

10/717698T.W.

the claims are not directed to automated financial or business practice management, and should be reclassified.

In light of the amendments and remarks, prompt examination of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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